



USDA EGG MARKET NEWS REPORT

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NATIONAL EGG MARKET AT-A-GLANCE



Prices in Chicago were 2 cents lower on the heavy weights and unchanged on mediums. Elsewhere, prices were unchanged. Trade sentiment was unsettled and usually ranged about steady to weak. Demand into all channels was light to good. Supplies of the heavier eggs were adequate to fully adequate while the lighter weights were sufficient to closely balanced. Breaking stock offerings were about adequate to fully adequate for the light to moderate demand. Light type hens were more than sufficient for normal slaughter schedules.

PRICES TO RETAILERS, SALES TO VOLUME BUYERS, USDA GRADE A AND GRADE A, WHITE EGGS IN CARTONS, WAREHOUSE, CENTS PER DOZEN.

MIDWEST REGIONAL EGG Producer prices in Iowa-Minnesota-Wisconsin were 2 cents lower for the large sizes. All other prices unchanged. Trade sentiment was unsettled, about steady steady to weak. Retail demand in a full range, slow to occasionally good where features are planned. Food service movement was slow to mostly moderate. Supplies were adequate to fully adequate for the larger sizes and about adequate for mediums. Central States breaking stock prices were unchanged. Most breakers working regular commitments and company owned production and working fulltime only schedules. Trade sentiment steady.

	RANGE	MOSTLY
EXTRA LARGE	61-68	62-64
LARGE	59-67	61-65
MEDIUM	53-59	56-59

IOWA-MINNESOTA-WISCONSIN PRICES PAID TO PRODUCERS

LARGE	37-41
MEDIUM	34-38
SMALL	12-16

MIDWEST AREA: IA,IL,IN,KY,MI,MN,OH,NE,ND,SD,WI,WV,western NY, and western PA

NORTHEAST REGIONAL EGG Prices were unchanged, however all sizes were trending lower for next week. The market tone was unsettled and ranged about steady to weak. Demand was light to instances good. Supplies were adequate to fully adequate on the larger sizes and mediums were close. Breaking stock offerings were about sufficient to adequate for the light to moderate demand. Breaking schedules were less than normal to normal for next week. Availability of spent hens were more than sufficient for the at least moderate demand. Slaughter schedules for the upcoming week were reported as regular.

	RANGE	MOSTLY
EXTRA LARGE	68-82	71-74
LARGE	64-79	69-71
MEDIUM	58-70	60-62

NORTHEAST AREA: CT, DC, DE, MA, MD, ME, NH, eastern NJ, eastern NY, PA, RI, Northern VA, and VT

SOUTH CENTRAL REGIONAL EGG Prices unchanged. Trade sentiment was about steady to barely steady. Retail demand in a full range, slow to occasionally fairly good with some feature activity scheduled. Food service movement was light to moderate. Supplies of larger sizes adequate to fully adequate, smaller sizes adequate to in close balance.

	RANGE
EXTRA LARGE	70-81
LARGE	71-77
MEDIUM	57-66

SOUTH CENTRAL AREA: AR,AZ,CO,KS,LA,MO,NM,OK, and TX

SOUTHEAST REGIONAL EGG Prices were unchanged. Asking prices for next week's deliveries were trending lower on all sizes. Trade sentiment was mixed, usually about steady to instances weak. Retail demand was light to at times good. Supplies of the larger sizes were generally adequate while lighter weights were in close balance. Breaking stock demand was light to moderate for about sufficient to adequate offerings. Light type hens were more than adequate for the moderate demand.

	RANGE	MOSTLY
EXTRA LARGE	71-79	73-76
LARGE	70-77	71-74
MEDIUM	55-64	57-61

SOUTHEAST AREA: AL, FL, GA, MS, NC, SC, eastern TN, and southern VA

PRICES TO RETAILERS, SALES TO VOLUME BUYERS, USDA GRADE A AND GRADE A, WHITE EGGS IN CARTONS, DELIVERED STORE DOOR, CENTS PER DOZEN.

NEW YORK EGGS Prices were unchanged on all sizes. The market tone was unsettled to weak entering the weekend. Retail and distributive demand ranged light to moderate. Supplies were adequate for current trade needs.

	RANGE
EXTRA LARGE	71-75
LARGE	69-73
MEDIUM	65-69

CHICAGO EGGS Prices for extra large and large declined 2 cents. The market tone was barely steady to weak. Retail and food service demand mostly light to moderate. Supplies adequate and available on all sizes.

	RANGE
EXTRA LARGE	60-66
LARGE	58-64
MEDIUM	55-61

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WESTERN REGION EGG Prices unchanged. The market tone was weak with asking prices for next week 8 cents lower on jumbo, extra large, and large, 3 cents lower on medium throughout the region. Retailer demand light to moderate. Offerings generally adequate, tightest on medium.

CALIFORNIA EGGS Prices unchanged. The market tone was weak with asking prices for next week 8 cents lower on jumbo, extra large and large, 3 cents lower on medium and small. Retailer demand light to moderate. Offerings about adequate, tightest on medium and jumbo. Small invoice price 71. Ads in Southern California: smaller outlets- extra large dozen 99, large dozen 99.

CALIFORNIA California Egg Marketing Association and other marketers benchmark price for negotiated egg sales of USDA Grade AA and Grade AA in cartons, cents per dozen. This price does not reflect discounts or other contract terms.

	RANGE
JUMBO	108
EXTRA LARGE	105
LARGE	102
MEDIUM	91

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

PRICES TO RETAILERS, SALES TO VOLUME BUYERS, USDA GRADE AA AND GRADE AA, WHITE EGGS IN CARTONS, DELIVERED STORE DOOR, CENTS PER DOZEN.

	RANGE
JUMBO	259-339
EXTRA LARGE	249-319
LARGE	219-229
MEDIUM	189-199

PRICES TO CONSUMERS MAJOR CHAINS, METROPOLITAN AREA, USDA GRADE AA AND GRADE AA, WHITE EGGS IN CARTONS, CENTS PER DOZEN.

	RANGE
JUMBO	93-98
EXTRA LARGE	91-95
LARGE	89-92
MEDIUM	78-81

CENTRAL STATES BREAKING STOCK Prices were unchanged. Offerings were usually adequate to fully adequate with demand light to moderate as most breakers work from regular commitments and company owned production and attempt to limit breaking schedules to full-time only. Trade sentiment steady.

PRICES PAID, MATERIAL EXCHANGED, 30 DOZEN CASE EQUIVALENT, 48 LB, MINIMUM NET WEIGHT, DELIVERED TO BREAKERS, CENTS PER DOZEN.

	RANGE	MOSTLY
NEST RUN	36-38	37
CHECKS & UNDERGRADES	23-28	
CENTRAL STATES AREA:		
AR,CO,IA,IL,IN,KS,LA,MI,MN,MO,NM,ND,NE,OH,OK,SD,TX,WI		

EASTERN REGION BREAKING STOCK Mostly prices were unchanged when compared to early week's trading. The undertone was cautiously steady to steady as traders continued to closely watch market developments. Supplies were about sufficient to adequate for less than normal to normal breaking schedules. Demand was light to moderate. Cases broken under federal inspection in the Eastern area for the week ending April 19, 2003 decreased 12 percent for both the previous week and the same week a year ago.

PRICES PAID, MATERIAL EXCHANGED, 30 DOZEN CASE EQUIVALENT, 48 LB. MINIMUM NET WEIGHT, DELIVERED TO BREAKERS, CENTS PER DOZEN.

	RANGE	MOSTLY
NEST RUN	35-40	36-38
CHECKS & UNDERGRADES	22-32.5	23-27
EASTERN REGION AREA:		
AL,CT,DE,FL,GA,KY,ME,MD,MA,MS,NH,NJ,NY,NC,PA,RI,SC,TN,VT,VA,WV		

EGGS PROCESSED UNDER FEDERAL INSPECTION -

W/E 19-Apr-03

(LBS IN THOUSANDS) (EXCLUDES INGREDIENTS)

	CASES BROKEN	LIQUID WHOLE	LIQUID WHITE	LIQUID YOLK	DRIED	INED
CW	1,045,025	25,961	9,449	5,117	1,731	4,122
PW	1,088,515	26,476	9,801	5,575	1,698	4,070
LY	1,205,931	28,780	11,641	6,311	3,048	4,264
% CHG PW	-4	-2	-4	-8	2	1
% CHG LY	-13	-10	-19	-19	-43	-3
2003	17,690,874	428,457	161,066	89,011	36,958	65,953
2002	18,051,614	416,678	179,686	96,431	42,644	65,442
% CHG YTD	-2	3	-10	-8	-13	1

	CURRENT WEEK	PREVIOUS WEEK	LAST YEAR
AVERAGE YIELD PER CASE - (INEDIBLE INCLUDED)	42.73	42.19	42.29
(INEDIBLE EXCLUDED)	38.78	38.45	38.75

NATIONAL LIQUID Pasteurized salt yolk reported from 53 to 56 cents fob, with no pasteurized whites reported. Trade sentiment steady to cautiously steady for whole egg, firm for whites and mostly barely steady to instances weak for yolk. Demand was moderate to instances fairly good for whole egg with increased interest reported. White demand was good to very good while yolk demand was generally poor. Offerings were adequate for whole egg with asking prices above the current quoted range with white offerings tight to inadequate and yolk at least adequate. Breaking stock values were unchanged compared to last week's reported prices.

Prices paid cents per lb., FOB Plant to 10:00AM Friday 25 April, 2003 non-pasteurized trucklot. For delivery within 14 days.

CLASS	LOADS	RANGE	WTD. AVG.	CHANGE FROM LAST WEEK
WHOLE	13	36-41	36.92	-1.58
WHITES	29	26-30	27.24	.31
YOLKS	6	53-54	53.33	

EASTERN REGION FROZEN Mostly prices were unchanged on whites, unchanged to slightly lower on whole and salt yolks, and slightly lower on sugar yolks when compared to previous week's trading. The undertone was about steady on whole, steady on whites and barely steady on yolks. Demand was slightly improved but mostly light to occasionally moderate. Offerings were in close balance to occasionally short on whites and usually sufficient on other items. Liquid and frozen eggs (ingredients included) processed under federal inspection in the Eastern region for the week ending 19 April 2003 were 8 % less than last week, and 11% lower than a year ago.

WHOLESALE SELLING PRICES (CENTS PER LB IN 30 LB CONTAINERS) LTL (MIN. 25 TRUCKLOTS)

CONT.)	WHOLE	RANGE	MOSTLY
RANGE		46-53	47-50
54-58			
BLENDS (/)	TFEWR		67-85
WHITES	35-39	37-39	42-47
SUGARED YOLKS (MIN 43% SOLIDS)	66-73	68-70	74-87
SALTED YOLKS (MIN 43% SOLIDS)	62-69	64-67	70-90

(/) - WHOLE PLUS YOLK PLUS SWEETENER, GENERALLY 28-32% EGG SOLIDS.

CENTRAL REGION FROZEN Frozen whole egg and sugar yolk ranges unchanged to 1 cent lower, frozen white and salt yolk ranges unchanged from last week's reported prices. Trade sentiment was about steady for whole egg, steady to firm for whites and barely steady or frozen sugar and salt yolk. Offerings were adequate or available with demand light to moderate. Most processors expect better activity in the upcoming period for seasonal needs and buyers reduced floor stocks. Breaking stock prices were unchanged when compared to last week's reported prices.

WHOLESALE SELLING PRICES (CENTS PER POUND IN 30 LB CONTAINERS)

	RANGE	MOSTLY
WHOLE	46-50	48-49
WHITES	37-40	
SUGARED YOLKS (MIN 43% SOLIDS)	68-72	
SALTED YOLKS (MIN 43% SOLIDS)	64-68	66-68

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA FROZEN Prices 1 cent lower on whole and yolks, unchanged on whites. Southern California breaking activity for the week ending 4/17 was 15% less than the previous week. Frozen demand light and freezer stocks adequate.

PRICES PER LB IN 30 LB CONT.) LTL (MIN. 25 CONT.)

	RANGE
WHOLE	52-55
WHITES	42-45
SUGARED YOLKS (MIN 43% SOLIDS)	74-77
SALTED YOLKS (MIN 43% SOLIDS)	70-73

NATIONAL DRIED EGG REPORT Mostly prices were unchanged to lower on yolk, lower on whole, but unchanged on albumen and blends when compared to previous week's trading. Demand was light to moderate with limited but increased sales reported. Supplies of albumen were held with confidence, whole was adequate and yolks were fully sufficient. Trade sentiment was at least steady on albumen, about steady to steady on whole and unsettled on yolks. Dried eggs processed under federal inspection for the week ending 19 April 2003 were 2% more than the previous week, but 43% less than a year ago. Total dried egg produced were currently 13% less than last year.

WHOLESALE SELLING PRICES, DOLLARS PER LB, IN CONT., TRUCKLOT & LESS-THAN-TRUCKLOT VOLUMES.

WHOLE	1.67-1.95	MOSTLY 1.70-1.77
YOLKS	1.58-2.05	MOSTLY 1.60-1.70
ALBUMEN, SPRAY, DRIED	2.70-3.05	MOSTLY 2.75-2.85
BLENDS (WHOLE PLUS SWEETENER)	1.29-1.45	MOSTLY 1.34-1.40

TRAILER LOAD EGG SALES WEEKLY WTD AVG PRICES (CENTS/DOZ) NATIONAL TRADING FOR APRIL 18, 2003-APRIL 24, 2003

CURRENT LOADS 104.50

FUTURE LOADS 48.00

TOTAL LOADS 152.50

		SE		NE		MW				SC		NW		SW	
CLASS	ORG	DST	ORG	DST	ORG	DST	LOADS	CLASS	ORG	DST	ORG	DST	ORG	DST	LOADS
GNR W 1	43.67	52.00	45.88	46.57	43.50	40.00	17.00	GNR W XL	—	51.00	—	—	—	—	2.00
GNR W 4	—	29.00	—	—	24.75	26.50	2.00	GNR W 1	—	—	—	—	—	47.00	2.00
GNR BR 1	—	—	52.00	—	—	55.00	6.00	GNR W 3	—	—	—	—	—	—	1.00
GL W J	—	—	69.50	71.00	48.00	—	3.00	GNR BR 1	—	—	—	—	—	66.00	1.00
GL W XL	61.00	59.60	60.00	61.22	48.44	51.00	48.25	GL W J	—	—	—	—	—	59.00	2.00
GL W LG	54.33	62.44	54.50	54.53	47.74	51.25	47.00	GL W XL	51.07	54.91	—	—	—	59.00	36.25
GL W MD	—	53.33	53.17	54.92	46.44	54.21	16.25	GL W LG	52.52	55.54	—	54.50	—	56.91	34.75
GL W SM	29.75	31.88	—	—	—	—	2.00	GL W MD	48.00	52.00	—	—	—	54.42	9.50
NRBS - 50	—	—	—	39.00	—	—	.25	GL BR XL	—	—	—	—	62.00	66.00	.50
NRBS - 48	—	—	—	—	35.80	38.38	24.00	GL BR LG	—	—	—	—	62.00	66.00	.50
NRBS - 39	—	—	20.00	22.00	—	—	.50								

WEIGHTED AVERAGE PRICES ARE LISTED FOR VARIOUS CLASSES PRICED BY ORIGIN AND/OR DESTINATION FOR 6 REGIONS. THE LOADS COLUMN REFLECTS TOTAL LOADS REPORTED AND INCLUDES LOADS WITH PRICES TO BE DETERMINED LATER. NRBS CATEGORIES REPRESENT NET WEIGHT-MATERIAL MAY OR MAY NOT BE INCLUDED. LOAD MOVEMENT REPRESENTS TOTAL MOVEMENT WITHIN 6 REGIONS.

LIGHT TYPE HENS

CENTS PER HEAD, GENERALLY FOR REMOVAL
WITHIN THE NEXT 10 DAYS
(INCLUDES HANDLING, FREIGHT AND ANY OTHER
CHARGES, WEIGHTS AVERAGE ABOUT 3.50 POUNDS)

EASTERN REGION Removal values were generally unchanged when compared to a week earlier. Offerings of spent hens were more than sufficient for trade needs. Demand was at least moderate. Processing schedules were reported as normal. Opinions on removal cost were generally steady.

	RANGE	MAJORITY
REMOVAL COST	0-8	5-7

SOUTH CENTRAL LIGHT LIVE HEN The cost of salvaging spent light fowl was generally unchanged compared to the past week. Offerings exceeded processing requirements and were noted as ample. Finished sales were in line with reduced schedules at most plants. Values of disposal were expected to remain steady.

	RANGE	MAJORITY
AT FARM PRODUCER LOADING	TOO FEW TO REPORT	

NORTH CENTRAL LIGHT LIVE HEN Values ranged unchanged with majority values unchanged to slightly higher. Demand was moderate to fairly good with offerings adequate to fully adequate. Rendering operations were charging higher processing fees to off-set previously higher gas rates. Trade sentiment steady.

	RANGE	MAJORITY
REMOVAL COST	0-8.5	3.5-6.5

WEST COAST LIGHT LIVE HEN Plant schedules moderate. Offerings adequate.

SHELL EGGS-COMBINED REGIONAL FOR W/E 25-Apr-03
AVERAGE PRICES ON SALES TO VOLUME BUYERS, GRADE A LARGE OR BETTER, WHITE EGGS IN CARTONS, DELIVERED WAREHOUSE, CENTS PER DOZEN.

REGIONS	EX LARGE	LARGE	MEDIUM
NORTHEAST	72.50	70.00	61.00
SOUTHEAST	74.50	72.50	59.00
MIDWEST	63.00	63.00	57.50
SOUTH CENTRAL	75.50	74.00	61.50
COMBINED REGIONAL	71.54	70.06	59.84

COMPUTED FROM SIMPLE WEEKLY AVERAGES WEIGHTED BY REGIONAL AREA POPULATIONS

NATIONAL CANNER FOWL MARKET Majority prices were generally unchanged on both light and heavy canners when compared to a week earlier. Demand was mostly fair. Trading was very light on heavy canners. Offerings were in close balance to tight and well cleared at most locations. The undertone was at least steady. CENTS PER POUND, CURRENT NEGOTIATIONS, WITHOUT FREIGHT COST

LIGHT CANNER HENS (LINE RUN WITHOUT NECKS)	HEAVY CANNER HENS (WITHOUT NECKS)
21-25 MAJORITY 22.5-23	30-35 MAJORITY 31-32
CENTS PER POUND, CURRENT NEGOTIATIONS, FREIGHT COST INCLUDED	
LIGHT CANNER HENS (LINE RUN WITHOUT NECKS)	HEAVY CANNER HENS (WITHOUT NECKS)
22.5-26.5 MAJORITY 25	31.5-37 MAJORITY 33.5-34

LIVE POULTRY SLTRD UNDER INSPECTION W/E 19-Apr-03
(PRELIMINARY)

U.S. FOWL SLAUGHTERED DOMESTICALLY

	LIGHT HENS	HEAVY HENS	TTL HENS
THOUSANDS			
HEAD	1,751	1,235	2,986
LAST WEEK	1,955	1,221	3,176
SAME WEEK YR AGO	1,910	1,417	3,327
TO-DATE/2003	26,890	21,245	48,135
TO-DATE/2002	29,139	20,765	49,904
	LIGHT HENS	HEAVY HENS	TTL HENS
THOUSANDS			
HEAD	192	0	192
LAST WEEK	281	8	289
SAME WEEK YR AGO	129	0	129
TO-DATE/2003	4,695	61	4,756
TO-DATE/2002	5,133	20	5,153

SOURCE: AGRICULTURE CANADA, PLTRY DEVELOPMENT DIV.

TOTAL U.S. FOWL SLAUGHTERED IN THE U.S. AND CANADA

	LIGHT HENS	HEAVY HENS	TTL HENS
HEAD	1,943	1,235	3,178
LAST WEEK	2,236	1,229	3,465
SAME WEEK YR AGO	2,039	1,417	3,456
TO-DATE/2003	31,585	21,306	52,891
TO-DATE/2002	34,272	20,785	55,057

Inspected Egg Products-U.S. & Canada Export/Import Trade**U.S. Exports to Canada, in Pounds (000) (Preliminary)**

Week Ending April 12, 2003		Year-To-Date		
	2003	2002/1	2003	2002
Liquid	303	454	2,832	5,268
Frozen	0	0	0	0
Dried	0	0	135	58
Total	303	454	2,967	5,326

U.S. Imports From Canada, in Pounds (000) (Preliminary)

Week Ending April 12, 2003		Year-To-Date		
	2003	2002/1	2003	2002
Liquid	0	87	1,579	1,953
Frozen	0	75	1,169	1,168
Dried	40	120	247	1,216
Total	40	282	2,995	4,337

Inspected Shell Eggs**U.S Exports To Canada, In 30-Dozen Cases (Preliminary)**

Week Ending April 12, 2003		Year-To-Date		
	2003	2002/1	2003	2002
Jumbo	30	50	106	306
Extra Large	780	60	2,550	2,487
Large	3,690	1,020	9,433	23,139
Medium	735	1,137	15,957	16,330
Ungraded	2,826	16,080	4,296	32,490
Misc	330	4,710	3,312	10,384
Total	8,391	23,057	35,654	85,136

/1 Comparable Week, to-date figures may not total due to rounding.

Source: USDA/AMS Poultry Programs, Market News Branch in cooperation with Agriculture Canada, Poultry Development Division.

WEEKLY COLD STORAGE HOLDINGS - (INCL GOVT STOCKS)**SELECTED STGE CENTERS (IN THOUSANDS)**

		FREGS	TURKS	POP
		LBS	LBS	LBS
AM	04/21/03	2,738	189,242	61,183
AM	04/01/03	2,722	189,905	61,778
CHG		16	-663	-595
PCT CHG		1%	0%	-1%

CHICKENS AND EGGS**March Egg Production Down 1 Percent**

U.S. egg production totaled 7.36 billion during March 2003, down 1 percent from last year. Production included 6.26 billion table eggs and 1.11 billion hatching eggs, of which 1.04 billion were broiler-type and 64.0 million were egg-type. The total number of layers during March 2003 averaged 338 million, up slightly from a year earlier. March egg production per 100 layers was 2,181 eggs, down 1 percent from March 2002.

March 2003 contained 21 weekdays, and five Saturdays, the same as March 2002.

All layers in the U.S. on April 1, 2003, totaled 338 million, up slightly from a year ago. The 338 million layers consisted of 278 million layers producing table or commercial type eggs, 57.3 million layers producing broiler-type hatching eggs, and 2.63 million layers producing egg-type hatching eggs. Rate of lay per day on April 1, 2003, averaged 70.8 eggs per 100 layers, down slightly from a year ago.

Laying flocks in the 30 major egg producing States produced 6.87 billion eggs during March 2003, down 1 percent from a year ago. The average number of layers during March, at 315 million, was down slightly from a year ago.

MOVEMENT OF EGGS INTO RETAIL CHANNELS

W/E 19-Apr-2003

SELECTED CONSUMING CENTERS	CW THOUSANDS	PW THOUSANDS	PCT CHG PW	LY
ATLANTA	31.2	27.8	12	48
BOSTON	4.6	5.5	-16	24
CHICAGO	80.1	68.0	18	108
DETROIT	51.1	47.4	8	125
KANSAS CITY	6.7	7.2	-7	179
LOS ANGELES	120.7	101.4	19	39
NEW ORLEANS	16.0	14.8	8	16
NEW YORK	35.5	36.8	-4	2
ST. LOUIS	20.6	25.5	-19	20
SAN FRANCISCO	24.9	25.0	0	22
TOTAL	391.4	359.4	9	49
4 WK MVG AVG	327.2			

COMMERCIAL EGG MOVEMENT REPORT

W/E 19-Apr-03

(RECEIPTS FROM PRODUCERS)

REGIONS	CASES (IN THOUS)	PERCENT CHANGE FROM PW	LY
N. ATLANTIC	229.5	3	2
E.N. CENTRAL	619.5	6	12
W.N. CENTRAL	325.5	2	14
S. ATLANTIC	192.3	-3	20
S. CENTRAL	103.6	-1	31
WEST	222.3	6	14
TOTAL	1692.7	3	13
MATCHED PLANTS REPORTING		86	86

NEW ENGLAND WEEKLY SHELL EGG REPORT

22-Apr-2003

PRICES PAID PER DOZEN GRADE A BROWN EGGS IN CARTONS DELIVERED STORE DOOR.

	EXTRA LARGE	LARGE	MEDIUM	SMALL
MAINE MOSTLY	119	112	87	53
	-	-	-	-
NEW HAMPSHIRE MOSTLY	112-116	105-109	80-84	46-50
	114-115	107-108	82-83	48-49
RHODE ISLAND MOSTLY	118-122	111-115	86-90	52-56
	118	111	86	52
VERMONT MOSTLY	120-122	115	89-90	-
	122	-	90	-

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